

# FAIRHAVEN CHRISTADELPHIAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



WINTER 2024

*He executes justice for the orphan and the widow and shows love for the sojourner by giving him food and clothing. So show love for the sojourner for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.*

*Psalm 71:18 LSV*

## STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND

From Abraham's call to leave Ur of the Chaldees and journey to a land that God would show him, Israel had shared in the refugee experience. Israel themselves would declare, "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous" (Deut. 26:5). But as time progressed, their reception in Egypt turned ugly with the ascension of a new Pharaoh. Israel suffered under Egypt's oppressive hand, enduring harsh labour and mistreatment. God's deliverance by Moses and ultimate establishment in the land of Canaan under Joshua brought the promise of a new beginning, but the nation was never to forget their heritage as strangers in a strange land.

Repeatedly in the law, their behaviour

towards aliens in their midst was to be tempered by the reminder that 'you were aliens in the land of Egypt'. Strangers were to be treated fairly, and with an even hand. "When the alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt" (Leviticus 19:33-34, and see 24:22). Throughout Israel's history, strangers associated themselves with the nation. Rather than being a detriment, they were often a positive spiritual example to an often-wayward people. The Gibeonites' desire to make peace with God had to be achieved through Israel, who were tasked with their destruction. The Gibeonites' deception

led to them becoming 'hewers of wood and drawers of water'. These were menial tasks, but it drew them close to the worship at the altar of God. They prefigured the Gentiles who have entered a covenant with God and who will share the future glories of the Kingdom.

The Rechabites' obedience to their father, Jehonadab, stood in stark contrast to the faithlessness of the Jews who ignored the law's commands. In Jeremiah's day (ch.35) the Rechabites were an ever-present object lesson to Israel confirming the blessings of faithfulness.

Let us not forget that we are all 'strangers' awaiting a new world order; and that refugee believers in our midst can bring diverse blessings that can strengthen the body of Christ.

### Fairhaven Christadelphian Charitable Foundation

c/o 39 Knox Avenue

North, York, ON, M9L 2M2

[www.fairhavenfoundation.ca](http://www.fairhavenfoundation.ca)

**Directors:** Jennifer Cowles, Alan Ghent, Marie Klien, Ian McPhee,  
Mike Nielsen, Penny Sheppard, Tom Thorp



## A NEW LIFE IN CANADA

How can we tangibly help refugees and displaced persons? Here are some concrete actions to consider, both individually and ecclesially.

**Pray** for brothers and sisters who have had to flee from their homes because of persecution or conflict. Ultimately the refugee crisis will be solved with the establishment of the kingdom of God. As we await that day, we can pray for our Father's care and blessing on those who are struggling to find a safe haven for themselves and their families.

**Welcome** newcomers with Biblical hospitality. We are all one in Christ, and although they may have different life experiences, speak a different language, or come from a different cultural background, we can still treat 'outsiders' as 'insiders' and show hospitality, by making our ecclesial community a welcoming spiritual home. We can also foster an understanding of daily life in Canada.

**Partner** with organizations focused on helping refugees. Facilitating a resettlement is best done in conjunction with a Sponsorship Agreement Holder or SAH. These are usually charitable non-profit organizations recognized by the government that can simplify bringing refugees to Canada. They are often religious, cultural, or municipal entities.

**Give** to organizations supporting refugees. Resettling safely in new homes requires resources. Your generosity with your time, talent, and financial resources can make a big difference. The Fairhaven Foundation has been a valued partner for ecclesiases seeking assistance in resettlement costs. Also consider donating new and gently used clothing and housewares to local refugee resettlement agencies.

*"She is doing her best to raise her four children while trying to sell the house and downsize her monthly expenses...Her expenses have left her in serious financial difficulty. Her employment is somewhat insecure, and her hours fluctuate a fair bit."*



## THE FOUNDATION'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

How can the Fairhaven Foundation be of assistance to your ecclesia? Are there health and welfare needs in your meeting that require attention, but ecclesial resources are strained or insufficient? The Foundation, operating under the applicable government regulations, may provide grants only to registered charities in Canada. We must disburse a percentage of our invested assets each year, based upon a government regulatory formula.

Ecclesiases in Canada may request assistance from the Foundation by following these guidelines:

Only requests from Arranging Boards will be considered. Requests from an individual member of an ecclesia will not be accepted by the Foundation. Priority is to be given to the welfare needs of Christadelphian elderly, since this reflects the original purpose of Fairhaven House. If additional funds are available after meeting these needs, then more general health and welfare needs of the Christadelphian community will be considered, followed by health and welfare needs of the community at large. Requests must be in writing and should document, in confidence, the need, the background, the amount of help required and the amount of help being

provided by the ecclesia. It is expected that the ecclesia requesting support will also provide funds to assist from its own resources. It is preferable, if possible, that ecclesiases address emergency situations, and subsequently follow up with a request to the Foundation. The board of the Foundation considers requests at its semi-annual meetings in February and June each year. Emergency requests will also be addressed as quickly as possible.

Requests may be sent to:  
The Fairhaven Christadelphian Charitable Foundation  
c/o Sister Penny Sheppard,  
Secretary  
39 Knox Avenue  
North York, ON, M9L 2M2

It is important to appreciate that the primary responsibility to meet the welfare needs of our brothers, sisters and young people lies at the ecclesial level, and consequently the Foundation's role is to supplement, rather than supplant this ecclesial responsibility. We encourage ecclesiases to be actively aware of situations where there is a need, extend help, and then approach the Foundation as a funding partner.

## Newcomers from Turkey



Brother Javad and Sister Farzaneh, pictured above enjoying an ecclesial potluck, recently arrived from Turkey, where they were awaiting resettlement. Originally from Iran, both were baptized last year by the CBM-UK linkman for Turkey and had been attending the ecclesia in Denizli comprised of Persian believers.

Their resettlement was facilitated by an SAH, together with help from friends and family. The couple were processed quickly and arrived safely in Canada, but without any English skills, employment counselling or orientation. Their speedy departure was even a surprise to the CBM-UK linkman! This process often takes years, and many refugees hold little hope of resettlement. Sadly, our new brother and sister's son was deported from Turkey and taken back to Iran.

Fairhaven supports resettlement requests to defray the substantial costs borne by hosting ecclesiastas.

## AN APPEAL

Uncertain economic times have created financial challenges for many resulting in increased demands on the resources of recipient ecclesiastas. The Foundation would welcome ecclesial and individual gifts to support this work. Please visit our website, [www.fairhavenfoundation.ca](http://www.fairhavenfoundation.ca)

Donations can be sent to the treasurer:

Sis. Jennifer Cowles  
2 Elvyn Cres.  
Oro-Medonte, ON L0L 2E0

### Mutual Blessings

Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help. Then your salvation will come like the dawn, and your wounds will quickly heal. Your godliness will lead you forward, and the glory of the LORD will protect you from behind  
Isaiah 58:7,8 NLT



## AN ECCLESIAL CHECKLIST FOR NEWCOMERS

**Housing**—Suitable housing in larger urban centers remains a challenge. An affordable rent will enable the newcomers to assume payments themselves, rather than be forced to move after the sponsorship ends.

**Immigration Settlement Assistance Agencies**—These will arrange ESL classes, provide information and orientation services, counselling and community connections. Employment services are also often provided.

**Budget**—Plan for both startup costs to furnish, and stock the unit, and ongoing expenses for shelter, utilities, food, phone, and transportation.

**Services**—Newcomers may need an interpreter. Apply for the provincial health plan, SIN, and Canada Child Benefits. Assist in finding a physician, dentist, and appropriate health care providers. Enroll the children in school. Help with banking, transit and shopping orientation.



## Year End Financial Report

### Statement of Revenue,

### Expenses And Fund Balance

### For The Year Ending

March 31, 2024

### Revenue

Investment Income	8,316
Donations	4,527
	—
	12,845

### Expenses

Grants	19,210
Professional fees	6,395
Administrative	102
	—
	25,707
Net Income	( 12,862)
Opening fund balance	224,160
Closing fund balance	211,298